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UK to Issue Coin in Honour of Mahatma Gandhi

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Why in News

Britain is considering minting a coin to commemorate **Mahatma Gandhi**.

Key Points

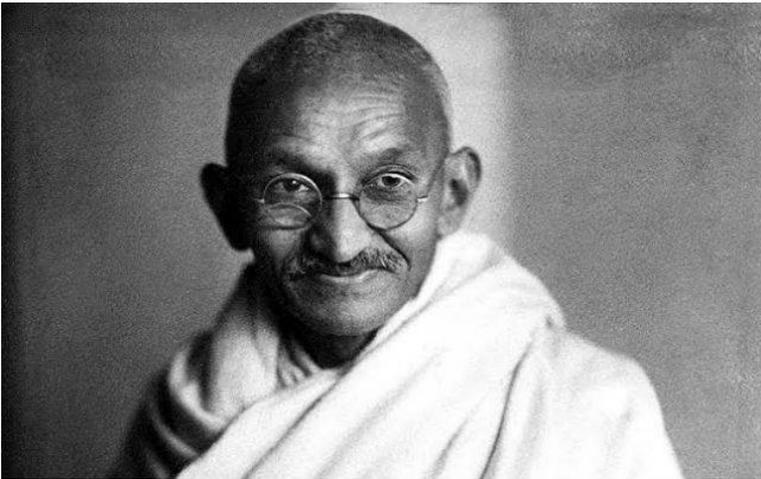
- The consideration is seen as part of efforts to celebrate achievements of people from the **Black, Asian and other Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities**.
- The British Finance Minister has written a letter to the **Royal Mint Advisory Committee (RMAC)**, to consider recognising the contribution of BAME communities on Britain's coinage.
 - The RMAC is an **independent committee** made up of experts who **recommend themes and designs** for coins.
 - The RMAC supports a campaign called **'We Too Built Britain'**, which seeks representation of non-white icons on British currency.
- Recently, the murder of a Black man, George Floyd, in the United States due to police brutality has led to **Black Lives Matter protests** against racism, colonialism and police brutality across the globe.
- Triggered by the death of George Floyd, some British institutions began re-examining their past, which includes their history, colonialism and racism.

Black Lives Matter Protest

- It is a global movement **advocating for non-violent civil disobedience** in protest against incidents of police brutality and all racially motivated violence against African-American people.
- Its **mission is to eradicate white supremacy** and **build local power** to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes.
- The movement was founded in 2013 in response to the acquittal of Trayvon Martin's (African-American) murderer in the USA.

Mahatma Gandhi

- Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was born on 2nd October, 1869, at Porbandar in Gujarat and died on 30th January, 1948 in New Delhi.
- He was a lawyer, politician, social activist, writer and became the **leader of the nationalist movement against the British rule of India.**
- He advocated for non-violence throughout his life and **played a key role in India's struggle for independence.**
- His birthday, October 2, is observed as the **International Day of Non-Violence by the United Nations.**
- He is considered as India's **Father of the Nation.**



Source: TH